

AR. Lesions of the subthalamic nucleus for the alleviation of 1-methyl-4-phenyl-1,2,3,6 tetrahydropyridine (MPTP)-induced parkinsonism in the primate. *Mov Disord* 1991;6:288-92.

9 Pollak P, Limousin P, Chabardees S, Perret JEF, Benabid AL. Abnormal involuntary movement alterations by subthalamic nucleus stimulation in Parkinson's disease. *Mov Disord* 1994;9(suppl 1):152.

10 Guridi J, Luquin MR, Herrero T, Obeso JA. The subthalamic nucleus: a possible target for stereotaxic surgery in Parkinson's disease. *Mov Disord* 1993;4:421-9.

Firstly, current techniques used in localising brain function are considered. Cortical stimulation, the use of subdural electrodes and event-related potentials, PET and functional MRI are each described, as are their limitations. To study the localisation of cognitive processes, a means of observing activation of brain regions during performance of cognitive tasks is needed. The ideal investigation would show brain activation with a temporal resolution approximating to real-time; PET is likely to be superseded by functional MRI and magnetoencephalography in this regard.

The second section deals with the localisation of various cognitive functions. The editor's interests are reflected in the preponderance of studies relating to language, including aphasia, alexia and agraphia. However, apraxia, agnosia, face processing, neglect, constructional ability, frontal function and lateralisation are also addressed. There are useful chapters on the effects of subcortical lesions on cognition, and on the role of neuroimaging in dementia. A minor criticism is that memory, perhaps the most extensively researched area of neuropsychology, is only afforded one chapter.

This is an excellent account of modern investigative techniques and of current thoughts regarding the localisation of cognitive functions. The only complaints might be that memory and imaging in dementia are not given more space. Also, there is a relative scarcity of images, with only a few colour plates. That said, the book is essential for the neurologist with an interest in higher cortical function.

JOHN GREENE
JOHN HODGES

Adult Dementias. Edited by DAVID M A MANN, DAVID NEARY and HUMBERTO TESTA. (Pp 184.) Published by Mosby, London 1994. ISBN 0-7234-1784-9.

Within behavioural neurology, the dementias are the principal area of research. Manchester has been prominent in this field, and this text, written by a neuropathologist, neurologist and radiologist, illustrates their approach.

The introductory chapter on clinical features is succinct, although the section on functional topography of the cortex is very brief. The bulk of the text is devoted to individual diseases, classified into cortical, subcortical, cortical-subcortical and multifocal encephalopathies. The authors have not attempted to present a comprehensive account of all dementias, but have deliberately targeted the common conditions. For each disease, there is a wealth of pathological illustrations, accompanied by an excellent explanatory text. Molecular biology and genetics are also given good coverage. Clinical features and imaging are given less space, although there are useful sections on clinico-pathological correlations.

A further section on diagnosis gives an insight into the pathologist's art of weighing up the pathological findings to come to a diagnosis. There is also practical advice regarding staining, of use to those general pathologists who perform neuropathology infrequently. The final section addresses setting up a dementia clinic.

For the dementias, the colour atlas format provides the opportunity to demon-

strate pathology and imaging. The pathological illustrations are excellent, but have eclipsed the imaging, which is sparse by contrast. The lack of a reference section is also unfortunate.

This fine book will appeal to neurologists and psychiatrists with an interest in the dementias. Its principal strength will be in improving the clinician's understanding of the underlying pathology, and hence the clinical manifestations of the disease.

JOHN GREENE

Dural Arteriovenous Malformation. By ISSAM A AWAD and DANIEL L BARROW. (Pp 353 \$90.) Publishers: American Association of Neurological Surgeons, USA 1993. ISBN 1-879284-06-5.

Another book in a line of AANS publications, intended to "provide neurosurgeons, especially those not located in an academic institution, with periodic publications related to neurosurgery". The original titles covered everyday subjects but these books are becoming increasingly esoteric. One wonders if complex dural AVMs should be managed by a neurosurgeon not located in an academic institution and with no particular interest in difficult vascular cases.

Not surprisingly, the authors are from the other side of the Atlantic, except for two French neuroradiologists. This is a very thorough subject review by physicians with much experience in managing this uncommon condition. There are numerous radiographic investigations, clearly labelled. Being multi-authored, the style does vary but the book is clearly laid out and easy to read.

Although the subject matter is perhaps a little abstruse for the trainee, no good neuroscience library should be without a copy.

DAVID HARDY

Functional Neuroimaging—Technical Foundations. Edited by ROBERT W THATCHER, M HALLETT, T ZEFFIRO, E ROY JOHN and MICHAEL HUERTA. (Pp 303 \$150.) Published by Academic Press Inc, California 1994. ISBN 0-12-685845-4.

Over the past few years there has been an explosion in the number and variety of methods available to investigate in vivo human brain function non-invasively. This technical development has generated a considerable number of sub-disciplines, each with its own unique terminology and contribution to make to the description and understanding of the functional architecture of the brain. The editors of "Functional Neuroimaging" have brought together presentations from the established leaders in these sub-disciplines to give a remarkably coherent overview of the present status and the probable future direction of each.

The science of functional imaging, on account of the intrinsic spatial resolution of the majority of the methods, takes a system perspective of the functional organisation of the brain. The book starts promisingly with a theoretical model of cortical integration, emphasising that without such models to test, the science of functional mapping remains purely descriptive. The corollary,

NOTICE

Announcement from the British Neuropsychiatry Association

The 1995 Summer meeting—to include joint sessions with the British Association for Psychopharmacology—will be held on 15–17 July in Cambridge

On 16 July BNPA will hold a scientific meeting with the theme of "movement disorders" and its AGM. On 17 July BNPA/BAP will have a joint session on neuroimaging, psychiatry, and psychopharmacology. Short scientific papers and single case videos by members of both associations will also be presented. For further details please contact Ms Sue Garratt, 17 Clocktower Mews, London N1 7BB, UK.

For details of membership of the BNPA, which is open to medical practitioners in psychiatry, neurology, and related clinical neurosciences, please contact Sue Garratt at the address above, or Dr Jonathan Bird, Burden Neurological Hospital, Stoke Lane, Stapleton, Bristol BS16 1QT, UK.

BOOK REVIEWS

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Localization and Neuroimaging in Neuropsychology. Edited by ANDREW KERTESZ. Published by Academic Press, California 1994. Pp 662 \$89.95 ISBN 0-12-405045-X.

The use of neuropsychology and neuroimaging to elucidate brain-behaviour relationships is arguably the most fascinating area of neurological research today, and this book, written by world authorities in their field, is the perfect introduction.